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| 08/999,663 | 12/18/1997 | EVAN GEORGE COLGAN | YO994-065XX | 4175 |

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DANIEL P MORRIS
IBM CORPORATION
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW DEPT
PO BOX 218
YORKTOWN HEIGHTS, NY 10598

EXAMINER

PARKER, KENNETH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2871

DATE MAILED: 04/23/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/999,663

Applicant(s)

COLGAN ET AL.

Examiner

Kenneth A Parker

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 December 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 and 46-133 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 14, 64, 65, 73, 94, 95, 103 and 121 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 46-64, 66-72, 74, 75, 77-93, 96-102, 104, 105, 107-120 and 122-133 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 76 and 106 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION***Objections to the Specification***

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required:

The combination of a mirror with the **first electrode over the switching device and the capacitor**, and any reference to a frame in respect to the first electrode, or a blocking layer below it. The specification shows a single pixel electrode 30 as the mirror, which means that the pixel electrode cannot be construed as the first electrode, as it is already recited in the claims as the mirror. Therefore, the first electrode would have to be some electrode below the pixel, such as the electrode 22. The electrodes below the pixel are not shown in the specification or the figures to have the transistor below them. Although the transistor must be in the semiconductor layer, it need not be below any of the layers connecting the pixel to the transistor itself). Further, most of the layers construable as the first electrode lack an absorbing layer below them, or an element which can be considered a “frame” around them, and particularly not an opaque frame. See Appendix 1, which compares an LCD as claimed with the LCD devices disclosed in the specification.

Interference

Claim 77 of this application has been copied from U.S. Patent No. 5708486 and claims 57-63 and 67-70, 71 of this application has been copied from U.S. Patent No. 5708486 for the purpose of an interference. Applicant has failed to specifically apply each limitation or element of each of the copied claim(s) to the disclosure of the application. Applicant is required to show how applicant believes each limitation or element is supported in the specification.

Claim 77 of this application is asserted by applicant in page 2 of paper #20 to correspond to claim(s) of U.S. Patent No. 5,708,486. The examiner does not consider this claim to be directed to the same invention as that of U.S. Patent No. **5,708,486** because the term "reflection characteristics" as employed in the specification of the patent is used in a different sense than the term used in the specification of the instant application. The term reflection characteristics has ambiguity in that every two things have different characteristics of some sort as the set of what can be construed is essentially open. The context of the specification sets forth the characteristics that are referred. The general use is in optical areas is the distribution of light off of a surface, and this is the use clearly established in the specification of the patent. The use in the instant application is less clear and the term has therefore been rejected as indefinite. If a meaning of the term can be established, it appears that it would be the ratio of reflection to absorption, a meaning which is clearly distinct from the meaning employed by the patent. **Accordingly, an interference cannot be initiated based upon this claim.**

Claim 57-63 and 67-70, 71 (77) of this application is asserted by applicant in page 2 of paper #20 to correspond to claim(s) of U.S. Patent No. 5,652,667. The examiner does not consider this claim to be directed to the same invention as that of U.S. Patent No. 5,652,667 because the specification of the instant application lacks support of the claimed limitations including:

The transistor and capacitor below the first electrode.

First electrode having an opaque frame.

The first electrode having a frame, and an opaque layer below it.

Further, the use of the term "frame" as employed in the current claims is indefinite.

Accordingly, an interference cannot be initiated based upon these claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 47- 61, 80-91, 108-109, 111-118, 132-133 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The combination of a mirror with the **first electrode over the switching device and the capacitor**, and any reference to a frame in respect to the first electrode, or a blocking layer below it. The specification shows a single pixel electrode 30 as the mirror, which means that the pixel electrode cannot be construed as the first electrode, as it is already recited in the claims as the mirror. Therefore, the first electrode would have to be some electrode below the pixel. The electrodes below the pixel are not shown in the specification or the figures to have the transistor below them. Although the transistor must be in the semiconductor layer, it need not be below any of the layers connecting the pixel to the transistor itself). Further, most of the layers construable as the first electrode lack an absorbing layer below them, or an element which can be considered a “frame” around them, and particularly not an opaque frame. To be a frame, a material would have to be located so as to be a border for the first electrode. No layer is shown doing this. All of the layer overlap the pixel substantially, and therefore do not border the pixel electrode. The same is true of the layers in relation to the electrode 22. The insulating layers and such run above and below it; they have no edge bordering the electrode and substantially framing it. Please note Appendix II which shows the definition of “frame” as being “an open structure or rim for encasing, holding or bordering” (noun), or “to enclose as in or as if in a frame, such as to frame of a painting” (verb).

Claims 47- 61, 74, 80-91, 107, 108-109, 111-118, 132-133 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

The combination of a mirror with the **first electrode over the switching device and the capacitor**, and any reference to a frame in respect to the first electrode, or a blocking layer below it. The specification shows a single pixel electrode as the mirror, which means that the pixel electrode cannot be construed as the first electrode, as it is already recited in the claims as the mirror. Therefore, the first electrode would have to be some electrode below the pixel. The electrodes below the pixel are not shown in the specification or the figures to have the transistor below them. Although the transistor must be in the semiconductor layer, it need not be below any of the layers connecting the pixel to the transistor itself). Further, most of the layers construable as the first electrode lack an absorbing layer below them, or an element which can be considered a “frame” around them, and particularly not an opaque frame.

As there is no written description of the claimed structure, one of ordinary skill could not make or use the invention, as how the layers would be constructed or formed could not be determined

Claims 1-13, 46-52, 56-60, 62-64, 66-70, 63, 74, 77-109, 113, 115, 123, 127-131 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

See detailed analysis below.

Regarding claims 74, 77, 104, 107, 127-131. The phrase **reflection characteristic** as used in the claim herein is indefinite- as what can be construed as a different reflection characteristic can be anything or some set of characteristics or profile of how light reflects off a layer. As applicant's specification does not give guidance as to what kinds of characteristics can

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meet this, this language is indefinite. For example, any two layers of different materials, or the same materials with different thickness or different deposition techniques has different reflection characteristics- so either anything automatically meets this (a sort of a null interpretation), or the specification gives some guidance as to what is meant so that some reasonable lines can be drawn. Here as the specification gives no guidance, the meaning of the term could be from the null interpretation to absolutely. This is not the case with Miyawaki, which the different characteristic is the reflection distribution as caused by a surface roughness or other related technique. For examination purposes, please note that the null definition is assumed; which is a different meaning than applicable for the Miyawaki reference.

47, 51,

Regarding claims 1, 48-50, 56-60, 62-64, 66-70, 77. The term **antireflection surface** is indefinite. An antireflection layer has an art established meaning as a stack of dielectric layers using optical wavelength thicknesses and appropriate indexes of refraction to reduce the reflection at an interface between two layers of differing refractive indexes. This is not taught in the instant specification with regard to the layers to which the limitation claimed. Further, whereas the term antireflection film or layer has an art established meaning, but an antireflection surface does not. As the specification gives provided no definition for the term and gives no guidance as to how the language is to be construed, and as the language implies structure clearly not disclosed in the specification (an antireflection film), this limitation is indefinite. For examining purposes, it is assumed that any layer or surface which does not reflect all of the light meets this criteria, and as all surfaces absorb some light, this limitation is met by any layer not held as new matter.

Regarding claims 47, 48-52, 57, 60, 63, 81-84, 87-88, 90, 113, 115. The term **frame** as used in the claims of this application is indefinite. Nothing in the specification looks like a frame- a frame goes around the edge (like a frame), and the specification does not illuminate the use of the term. Applicants first electrode, if considered as the post, does not have the capacitor below it and there is another element between the edge of the post and the blocking layer. If considered the pixel/mirror, the layer that would be the frame is below it, not around it. Therefore what is meant cannot be ascertained and the claims are indefinite.

Regarding claims 1-13, 46, 110. The term **reflector/absorber** is indefinite- Does this mean reflecting and absorbing (which everything does), or does it mean a reflector or and absorber? Or does it mean somewhere in between at some particular dividing line. As we don't know what the criteria is to meet this limitation, it is indefinite. For examination purposes, it is presumed to mean anything that absorbs or transmits.

Regarding claims 78-109, 123. The language “**Substantially prevents radiant energy incident on said shielding layer at a non-orthogonal angle from passing**” is indefinite, as we don't know and cannot reasonably ascertain the level of blocking required to meet “substantially”. Any of the devices, particularly Sato, would block anywhere from some to much of the light that is off normal. Does this therefore meet the limitation or not?

Regarding claim 110. The language “**light blocking region**” is indefinite, as there is no way to determine what constitutes a light blocking region (light blocking elements and layer are defined, as an element can block light- but a region itself is incapable of blocking light- an element of some form is required).

Affidavit/declaration

The affidavit or declaration filed 4/5/00 under 37CFR 1.131 has been considered but is ineffective to overcome the references.

The evidence submitted is insufficient to establish applicant's alleged actual reduction to practice of the invention in this country or a NAFTA or WTO member country prior to the effective date of the Sato reference. The evidence submitted has established conception prior to the date of the reference, however has only alleged reduction to practice prior to the reference date. Reduction to practice is the making of a device which works for its intended purpose. No evidence has been provided that such a device was fabricated or how it performed. Therefore, the evidence fails to establish that a reduction to practice occurred prior to the date of the reference(s). A general allegation that the invention was completed prior to the date of the reference is not sufficient. Ex parte Saunders, 1883 C.D. 23, 23 O.G. 1224 (Comm'r Pat. 1883). See MPEP 715.07 **"Facts and Documentary Evidence"**.

The evidence submitted is insufficient to establish diligence from a date prior to the date of reduction to practice of the Sato reference to either a constructive reduction to practice or an actual reduction to practice. No information relating to diligence has been provided. As no evidence was provided to establish a reduction to practice as discussed above, diligence would need to be established from just prior to the date of the reference to the filing date of the earliest of the parent applications. No information regarding the activities during that time period towards the reduction to practice or a constructive reduction to practice have been presented. Therefore, applicant has not established facts which show diligence during that time period. Where conception occurs prior to the date of the reference, but reduction to practice is afterward, it is not enough merely to allege that applicant or patent owner had been diligent. *Ex parte Hunter*, 1889 C.D. 218, 49 O.G. 733 (Comm'r Pat. 1889). Rather, applicant must show evidence of facts establishing diligence. See MPEP 715.07(a) "Diligence".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

I. Claim 1-11 and 13, 46, 61-63, 66-72, 74-75, 77-78, 92-93, 96-102, 104-105, 110, 107, 119-120; 122-130 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato et al, U.S. Patent #5,461,501.

Lacking from the disclosure is the use of alignment layers. As alignment layers were notoriously well known and ubiquitously use for creating appropriate alignment conditions, this feature would not patentably distinguish the claims. The size of the pixel electrode, opening,

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and capacitance of the capacitors were all well known result effective variables, with the pixel inverse-size trading off resolution vs cost, capacitance trading off holding time vs delay. As it has been judicially determined that the optimization of a result effective variable is obvious, these features do not patentably distinguish the claims. Any other missing limitations are addressed below in the discussion corresponding to the individual claims.

Sato discloses, relative to the claims:

Re claim 1- shown is plurality of (liquid crystal) *devices* 209 over mirror over dielectric over semiconductor substrate 201, electrical circuits in semiconductor substrate coupled to LCDs for placing a voltage across electrode of LCDs, reflector/absorber layer comprising antireflection layer (column 10, line 40 - column 11, line 3) positioned and patterned with respect to the mirrors for shielding the circuits from ambient light, having edge overlapping edge of mirror to decrease light from passing to semiconductor substrate (see figures 6, 7, 8 and 10),

Re claim 3- Shown is a plurality of (liquid crystal) devices over mirror of Ag, Al (col. 10 lines 40-45) over dielectric 205 over semiconductor substrate, electrical circuits in semiconductor substrate coupled to LCDs for placing a voltage across electrode of LCDs (in 202), reflector/absorber layer positioned and patterned with respect to the mirrors for shielding the circuits from ambient light, having edge overlapping edge of mirror to decrease light from passing to semiconductor substrate (see figures 6, 7, 8 and 10).

Re claim 47- shown is substrate 201, switching elements being formed on said substrate (listed above), first electrode connected with switching element and positioned over switching element (listed above) , storage cap connected with first electrode 112 and under first electrode 204-206, optical reflector *and a frame* 208, first orientation film on optical reflector (listed above), second orientation film (listed above) LC between orientation films (listed

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above)substantially nonconductive optical blocking means between first electrode and switching element for blocking light leaking onto switching element comprising anti-reflection film (listed above),

Re claim 48- shown is substrate (listed above), switching elements being formed on said substrate (listed above), first electrode connected with switching element and positioned over switching element (listed above), storage cap connected with first electrode and under first electrode (listed above), optical reflector *and a frame* (listed above), first orientation film on optical reflector (listed above), second orientation film (listed above), LC between orientation films 209, substantially nonconductive optical blocking means between first electrode and switching element for blocking light leaking onto switching element comprising anti-reflection surface (listed above).

Claims 50,53, 56-63, 67-70, 75 the features are as described above.

Re claim 64- show is the forming one or more layers of interconnections above the circuits (listed above) forming a dielectric layer over the circuits (listed above) planarizing the dielectric layer (a conventional step for enabling a good metalization coating, and obvious for that reason) forming an absorber layer, (listed above) positioned and patterned (required, as the layer is not continuous) forming a second dielectric layer above the patterned absorber (listed above) forming studs through the second dielectric layer for electrical connection to mirrors (listed above) forming the mirrors overlapping the absorber layer to form a capacitor with respect to the overlapping mirror to attenuate light traveling between said absorber and mirror, (listed above) forming between selected mirrors (well known for providing even spacing, and obvious for that reason) applying a layer of liquid crystal (listed above) orienting the LCM (obvious for the requirement of liquid crystal to have an orientation (it is typically injected isotropically an then

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cooled, the cooling step can be considered orienting, and a separate orienting step is required for ferroelectric liquid crystal, well known for high speed) forming a top electrode of the plurality of mirrors to the LCD (listed above) absorber layer comprises an antireflection surface (listed above).

Re claims 2 and 4-11, and 13: The level of overlap and the capacitances were well known result effective variables where the capacitance should be high enough to hold the time constant required (not to long or to short). As it has been judicially determined that the optimization of a result effective variable is within the ordinary skill levels, selection of this would have been obvious. The pixel density was well known to make as high as possible, and to have the pitch smaller than that claimed would have been obvious for that reason.

Re claims 14 and 65-shown is the forming one or more layers of interconnections above the circuits (listed above) forming a dielectric layer over the circuits (listed above) planarizing the dielectric layer (listed above) forming an absorber layer, (listed above) positioned and patterned (listed above) forming a second dielectric layer above the patterned absorber (listed above) forming studs through the second dielectric layer for electrical connection to mirrors (listed above) forming the mirrors overlapping the absorber layer to form a capacitor with respect to the (listed above) overlapping mirror to attenuate light traveling between said absorber and mirror, (listed above) forming spacers between selected mirrors (listed above) applying a layer of liquid crystal (listed above) orienting the LCM (listed above) forming a top electrode of the plurality of mirrors to the LCDs (listed above) mirrors are AG al or alloys thereof (listed above) Re 66 plurality of LCDs over respective mirrors on dielectric layer on a semiconductor substrate (listed above) plurality of electrical circuits in semi sub, coupled to LCDs, (listed above) light blocking layer and patterned with respect to said mirrors for shielding the circuits

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from ambient light which overlaps edge of mirror, comprising antireflection surface (listed above)

Claims applied above and numbered any where in between 78-133 rejected for the same reasons as their equivalent counterparts listed above. Lacking is the non-normal light detail, but as explained in the rejection under 112 above, this limitation is considered to be met by any device with a structure such as Sato, as at least some of the light would have been blocked, and most likely most of it as they indicate the claimed structure and therefore should have the claimed result.

The smoothing or leveling steps in the method were conventionally employed to enable the metalization layer to avoid defects caused by unevenness. Therefore one of ordinary skill would have known to employ such steps for that reason.

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

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Claims 1-11 and 13, 61-63, 66-72, 74-75, 78, 92-93, 96-102, 104-105, 110, 119-120, 122-126 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-13 and 26 of U.S. Patent No. 6424388. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the current claims are broader than the patent claims. As anticipation is the epitome of obviousness, the current claims are obvious over the patent claims.

Claims 47-55, 56-61, 80-81, 84-91, 108-109, 111-118, 132-133 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 14-18 and 22-24 of U.S. Patent No. 6424388. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the current claims are broader than the patent claims. As anticipation is the epitome of obviousness, the current claims are obvious over the patent.

Claims 48, 50-52, 57, 60, 80-84, 87, 90, 111-113, 115, 118 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 19-21 of U.S. Patent No. 6424388. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the current claims are broader than the patent claims. As anticipation is the epitome of obviousness, the current claims are obvious over the patent.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's assertion that an affidavit had been submitted and established overcame the rejection are not agreed with, as the affidavit has been located in the file, however does not establish the requisite conditions to overcome the rejections.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 14, 64-65, 73, 103 and 14, 64-65, 94-95, and 121 are allowable over the prior art.

Claim 76 and 106 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Regarding claims 14, 64-65, 94-95, and 121, none of the prior art taught or suggested the claimed structure including the studs formed separately from the mirror electrodes.

Regarding claims 73, 76, 103 and 106, none of the prior art taught or suggested the claimed structure including the particular light absorbing films.

Regarding claim 12, none of the prior art taught or suggested the claimed structure including the particular capacitance of the shading layer.**- not indicated as allowable: subject to a double patenting rejection.

Conclusion

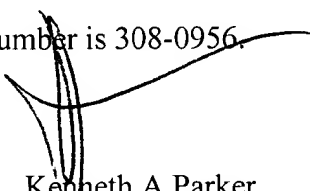
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth A Parker whose telephone number is 703-305-6202.

The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert H. Kim can be reached on 305-3492. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722 for regular communications and 703-308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 308-0956.



Kenneth A Parker
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2871

April 21, 2003

Appendix II

Definition of Frame: from www.dictionary.com: 3/17/03

- 1.To build by putting together the structural parts of; construct: frame a house.
- 2.To conceive or design: framed an alternate proposal.
- 3.To arrange or adjust for a purpose: The question was framed to draw only one answer.
4.
 - a.To put into words; formulate: frame a reply.
 - b.To form (words) silently with the lips.
- 5.To enclose in or as if in a frame: frame a painting.
- 6.Informal.
 - a.To make up evidence or contrive events so as to incriminate (a person) falsely.
 - b.To prearrange (a contest) so as to ensure a desired fraudulent outcome; fix: frame a prizefight.

v. intr.

- 1.Archaic. To go; proceed.
- 2.Obsolete. To manage; contrive.

n.

- 1.Something composed of parts fitted and joined together.
- 2.A structure that gives shape or support: the frame of a house.
- 3.

a.An open structure or rim for encasing, holding, or bordering: a window frame; the frame of a

mirror.

b.A closed, often rectangular border of drawn or printed lines.

4.A pair of eyeglasses, excluding the lenses. Often used in the plural: had new lenses fitted into an old pair of frames.

- 5.The structure of a human or animal body; physique: a worker's sturdy frame.
- 6.A cold frame.
- 7.A general structure or system: the frame of government.
- 8.A general state or condition: The news put me into a better frame of mind.

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9.A frame of reference.

10.Sports & Games.

a.A round or period of play in some games, such as bowling and billiards.

b.Baseball. An inning.

11.A single picture on a roll of movie film or videotape.

12.The total area of a complete picture in television broadcasting.

13.An individual drawing within a comic strip.

14.Computer Science.

a.A feature that divides a browser's window into separate segments that can be scrolled independently of each other.

b.A single step in a sequence of programmed instructions.

15.Informal. A frame-up.

16.Obsolete. Shape; form.

